

~~TOP SECRET~~

Armstrong's Ltr: "My atttent. has been drawn to the fact that through inadvertence on our part the concurrence of the Intell. org. of the Depart. in ORE 17-49 was not Imtd. to the "Political Estimate," as had been intended. While this error is greatly regretted, I wld. like to suggest that the paper be recalled with indication to present holders that this is done at our request. The reason for the intent. to limit the concur. to the "Pol. Est." section of the paper was that the Intell. org. of the Dept. was not prepared to accept the major concl. of ORE 17-49. I believe, however, that the divergence of the view on that concl. is of such fundamental importance that it shld. be given further study and consider. looking to its resolution. Accordingly, I would suggest that the paper be referred to the IAC, or to an ad hoc committee design. by the IAC, for that purpose. Sincerely yours."

10 May 1940

Mr. W. Park Armstrong, Jr.
Special Assistant to the Secretary of State
Department of State
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Armstrong:

In reply to your letter of 17 May 1940 requesting that the Central Intelligence Agency recall and release ORE 17-49, I must assure you that the procedure of recalling all copies will be most impractical.

However, if you will forward to me my dissent of the Department of State, I will see that it is delivered to all holders or all recipients of ORE 17-49 with the explanation that this dissent must be included in a consideration of the paper.

Sincerely,

~~Signed~~

Recd by EP 4/20/49.
H. P. ALLEN SMITH
Rear Admiral, USN
Director of Central
Intelligence

D/RM/GB/ab
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State Department review completed

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